

**NASSIF et al**  
**Serial No. Unknown**  
U.S. National Phase of PCT/EP00/06943

SEQ ID NO : 44, SEQ ID NO : 46, SEQ ID NO : 48, SEQ ID NO : 50, SEQ ID NO : 52, SEQ  
ID NO : 54, SEQ ID NO : 56, SEQ ID NO : 58, SEQ ID NO : 60, SEQ ID NO : 62, SEQ ID NO  
: 64, SEQ ID NO : 66, SEQ ID NO : 68, SEQ ID NO : 70, SEQ ID NO : 72, SEQ ID NO : 74,  
SEQ ID NO : 76, SEQ ID NO : 78, SEQ ID NO : 80, SEQ ID NO : 82, SEQ ID NO : 84, SEQ  
ID NO : 86, SEQ ID NO : 88, SEQ ID NO : 90.

A<sup>3</sup>  
9. (Amended) The isolated polynucleotide as claimed in claim 6 in which the identity is  
at least 95% to SEQ ID NO : 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37,  
39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, or  
89.

A<sup>4</sup>  
13. (Amended) An expression vector or a recombinant live microorganism comprising  
an isolated polynucleotide according to claim 6.

A<sup>5</sup>  
16. (Amended) A process for expressing a polynucleotide of claim 6 comprising  
transforming a host cell with the expression vector comprising at least one of said  
polynucleotides and culturing said host cell under conditions sufficient for expression of any one  
of said polynucleotides.

17. (Amended) A vaccine composition comprising an effective amount of the  
polypeptide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18. (Amended) A vaccine composition comprising an effective amount of the polynucleotide of claim 6 and a pharmaceutically effective carrier.

19. (Amended) The vaccine composition according to claim 17 wherein said composition comprises at least one other *Neisseria meningitidis* antigen.

20. (Amended) An antibody immunospecific for the polypeptide or immunological fragment as claimed in claim 1.

21. (Amended) A method of diagnosing a *Neisseria* infection, comprising identifying a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1, or an antibody that is immunospecific for said polypeptide, present within a biological sample from an animal suspected of having such an infection.

22. (Amended) Use of a composition comprising an immunologically effective amount of a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1 in the preparation of a medicament for use in generating an immune response in an animal.

23. (Amended) Use of a composition comprising an immunologically effective amount of a polynucleotide as claimed in claim 6 in the preparation of a medicament for use in generating an immune response in an animal.